

<b>Subject</b>	<b>IMPORTANT: JJAEP Update</b>
<b>From</b>	Lou Serrano
<b>To</b>	
<b>Cc</b>	
<b>Sent</b>	Monday, March 16, 2020 10:21 AM

Good morning,

As your communities monitor, prepare, and respond to the ongoing spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to make sure you are all aware of some important information that may affect any counties with Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs.

For JJAEPs run by the local school district, the decision to close the program will come primarily from the school district, the mayor, or the county administrators. For JJAEPs run by the Juvenile Board, the decision for any closures or exceptions to programming will come from the Juvenile Board. We encourage you to take all measures necessary to ensure your youth and staff remain safe. We also encourage you to take all necessary precautions for your staff who may provide supervision in the JJAEP and your detention centers.

All guidance on meeting educational requirements will be sent through the Texas Education Agency. Please visit TEA's website ([www.tea.texas.gov/coronavirus](http://www.tea.texas.gov/coronavirus)) where you will find important information relating to the state's response and how it affects programming, funding, and governing rules.

TEA conducts daily conference calls with all school districts across the state. They share important information relating to programming and funding. For counties who operate their JJAEPs in conjunction with their local school districts, your school district should already be on these phone calls. Please continue to coordinate all services with your school district. Counties who operate their own JJAEPs, independent of the local school districts, will receive additional information on how to call-in to these daily conference calls.

We know the decision to prevent visitation, limit programming, and suspend education is not taken lightly. While you face these tough decisions, please know that TJJD is here to help. Dr. Marie Welsch will remain your point of contact should you have any questions or concerns. Dr. Marie Welsch may be contacted at 512-490-7990.

We appreciate you and are here to assist.

**Louis Serrano**

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